

sociations," Mary Louisa Butler; "The One Who Watches," verse, S. E. Kiser; "Books as Tools," a practical life paper, Julia B. Anthony; "Reading with a Purpose," Austin Bierbower; "The Expansion of the American People," Prof. E. E. Sparks; "Critical Studies in American Literature," Fred Lewis Pattee; "The Inner Life of Robert E. Lee," Chaplain J. William Jones.

## Quiet Observer

"And he said unto them, Blessed are your eyes for they see." Matt. 13: 16.

It is a misfortune to be blind, but it is far better to be blind to the world than to be blind in heart. Helen Keller with her marvellous spiritual vision is far more to be envied than he of the eagle-eye who yet can see only shekels and much in the world. I have observed that spiritual blindness is still the great heart-rending malady of mankind. "My people perish for lack of knowledge," cried the prophet. "Seeing they see not," said the Savior and finally blundering in their blindness they brought destruction on themselves.

And I have seen people today clinging to their errors as stubbornly as even the scribes and the Pharisees clung to theirs. Why should that father whip his boy because he wore a pair of suspenders that his aunt made for him? Because forsooth the father never wore suspenders—that was a fashion of the world and therefore begotten of the devil. Why should that good Christian voter stay away from all party primaries and caucuses and allow the bum element to get the offices and disgrace the country and hinder the cause of Christ? Because his father did that before him. Shame, that in a thousand ways we should stultify our lives because we indolently follow others rather than to open our eyes to see!

But the purpose of this column is not to point out faults. We are not bull-frogs or turkey-buzzards or spiders, to search for the foul and poisonous things of life. The world is bad enough, God knows. But it is a great deal better than most of us give it credit for. It has its swamps and holes but it also has its sunlit hills and bright blue skies and it is our privilege to live up in the sunlight if we will. "Whatever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely and of good report; if there be any praise, think on these things."

The scandal-monger, the heresy-hunter, the professional critic and the snapping-turtle all of them doubtless have their mission in the world, but God grant that your calling and mine may be a little higher. There are thousands of things that we need never to see and the people ought never to know. Blessed are those eyes which see the white harvest and thrust in the sickle. Blessed are those ears which hear their own call, "Go work today," and hearing, go. Blessed are those hearts which open not to the bad in life, but to the pure and true for in such the Master loves to dwell.

## Brevities

—The first accident at the Paris Exposition has happened. A temporary structure suddenly crashed upon a great throng of merry sightseers, killing nine and injuring forty persons.

—The war in South Africa is progressing very slowly, both the Boers and the English claiming victories. Lord Roberts is preparing for an advance which will likely result in a decisive change in the situation.

—It is not the religion of Abdul Hamid, the Sultan, to pay his debts. The United States demands \$100,000 for destruction of missions property during the Armenian massacres, but the Sultan's subjects will not permit him to make payment. He therefore proposes to purchase an American cruiser and pay

\$100,000 more for it than its real value. Some one suggests that it would improve the situation by sending over several cruisers and a battleship or two thrown in. If Abdul Hamid is not the "unspeakable Turk," he certainly is the "unpayable Turk."

—A great fire in Ottawa destroyed almost the entire city, reducing to ashes several thousand houses, leaving from 8,000 to 10,000 people without homes or shelter. The loss is estimated at \$20,000,000, and save the big fires of Chicago and Boston, was the most destructive conflagration of modern times.

—France exports about 250,000,000 oysters annually. The European oyster is valued according to the greenness of its color and the brassiness of its flavor.

—The total foreign commerce of the United States in the year just ended has for the first time crossed the \$2,000,000,000 line, and the total exports of the manufactures of iron and steel have for the first time crossed the \$100,000,000 line.

—Walnut logs from 22 to 23 inches in diameter are worth from \$105 to \$115 a thousand feet in Rotterdam. Poplar is worth \$38, white oak \$45, hickory \$54.

—Exports of cotton from this country in March, as officially reported by the Government, increased over last year 120 per cent in quantity and 192 per cent in value.

—American lard sells in Singapore at 24 cents a pound in ten-pound cans. American canned fruits, vegetables and meats, as well as American buggies, are also sold there.

—The new residence of the Crown Prince of Japan will be built of 3,000 tons of American structural iron, and will cost more than \$5,000,000. This is an innovation, for Japanese dwellings, as a rule, are of one story, because of earthquakes. They have heavy tile roofs, no cellars, no chimneys, paper partitions, paper windows and sliding panels of paper colored screens for doors. The new palace is to withstand earthquakes, which are frequent occurrence.

—The cable of the Western Union Telegraph Company, which runs under Lake Champlain from Ticonderago to Larrabee's Point, has something of a history. It was made in Europe and was first used in connecting opposite shores of the Red Sea. From there it was brought to Hilton Head, where it was used in connecting that place with Tybee island, near Beaufort, S. C. At the close of the Civil War it was taken up and carried to this city, where it remained for several years in the company warehouse, before it was placed where it now is.

—Potatoes are rapidly dug, cleaned and sacked by a new apparatus, which has a plow to unearth the tubers, the dirt and potatoes falling into an endless-chain elevator, which delivers them into a hopper with slat sides, which removes the dirt and drops the potatoes into a bag.

## Our Cream Pitcher

J. R. Miller

It is a mistake to suppose that nature reveals God to those who do not care for her. We must be interested in stones before we can find sermons in them.

Do not despise an opportunity because it seems small. The way to make an opportunity grow is to take hold of it and use it.

God never bids us climb without bidding us also look. Broader vision is the reward of all aspiring endeavor.

Kate Douglass Wiggin

Christ it was who disdained not the use of objects and symbols, remembering that it was the childhood of the race. He it was who spake in parables and stories, laying bare soul of man and heart of nature, and revealing each by divine analogy. He it was who took the little ones in his arms and blessed them; who set the child in the midst, saying, 'Except ye be-

come as one of these.' May the afterglow of that inspired teaching ever shine upon the path we are treading. May we bathe our tired spirits in its warmth and glory, and kindle our torches at the splendor of its light.

John Ruskin

"Taking up your cross," means simply that you are to go the road which you see to be the straight one; carrying whatever you find is given you to carry, as well and as stoutly as you can, without making faces or calling people to come and look at you.

Henry Vincent

The world is what we make it. Forward, then! Forward in the power of faith, forward in the power of truth, forward in the power of friendship, forward in the power of freedom, forward in the power of hope, forward in power of God!

Theodore L. Cuyler

Very much of the choicest, purest, deepest, and strongest portions of a Christian's character have been engendered in those seasons when worldly friends were pitying him or condoling with him. If angels could speak, they would congratulate him.

Rev. Herbert W. Lathe

A famous artist once wandering in the mountains of Switzerland, met some officials who demanded his passport. "It is not with me, but my name is Dore." "Prove it, if you are," replied the incredulous officers. Taking a piece of paper Dore hastily sketched a group of peasants standing by with such grace and skill that the men of the law exclaimed, "Enough; you must be Dore." "Write your name," is the challenge of the world to the follower of Christ. No awkward scrawl of a worldly life will do. Nothing but the grace and beauty of a character born of God will convince men that our profession is true.

Congregationalist

Conversion may be as tranquil and uneventful as any other experience, but it must reach to the very roots of life. It must assume and maintain control of the ruling motives of conduct. It may not modify external conditions to any great extent, but it must alter their meaning to us and their influence.

Selected

Let nothing tempt you to cross the sacred line of perfect integrity; neither the smallness of the transgression, intention to repay shortly, the example or bidding of others, the temptations of pleasure, or even the pressure of the keenest necessity. One lie in word or act opens the door to a thousand. Truth is the magician's circle, to cross which is to break the spell and turn all to darkness.

## Matrimonial

WINE—REYNOLDS —At the Brethren parsonage in Milledgeville, Ill., on March 28, 1900, brother Noah L. Wine and Ethel Reynolds were united in holy matrimony by the undersigned. Brother Wine is one of Carroll county's popular and successful pedagogues, and his wife is the daughter of one of the enterprising farmers of this county. Their many friends wish them happiness and God's blessing.

R. R. TERTER

SCHROCK—SCHWAIN.—April 26, 1900, at high noon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Schlossnagle, on East North St., Wooster, by Wm. Kiefer, of Pleasant Home, Mr. Willis G. Schrock and Mrs. Fannie Schwain, were pronounced man and wife. Mr. Schrock is a prosperous young farmer, of Middlebury, Ind., and Mrs. Fannie Schwain is one of Smithville's most prominent ladies, and is a cousin of Mrs. Schlossnagle. After the ceremony a fine dinner was served to those present. The happy couple intend to start for Indiana in the near future where they expect to make their future home. The best wishes of their many friends go with them.

WM. KIEFER,